

# BENEFITS OF A VILLAGE

**Choice.** Villages offer more choices for people. People have a broader variety in the housing they can live in and nearby employment opportunities. Walking, biking, and transit truly become a viable option enabling people to choose a lifestyle that is unique, healthy, and vibrant.

**Health.** Villages are a healthier way to live. Nearby employment, shopping, & recreation opportunities make alternative transportation options viable. These options improve air quality, decrease fuel consumption that causes greenhouse gases that lead to climate change, reduce traffic congestion, and reduce traffic accidents. These options increase the opportunity and incidence of exercise - intentionally and unintentionally.

**Sustainability.** Since villages are compact, fewer parking spaces are needed and multiple floors are used. Using less land reduces the demand on our drainage system and other infrastructure. This intensity allows open space to be designed and meaningful. Overall, villages reduce the pressure for our city to sprawl.

**Viability.** Villages use the land more efficiently and consequently, that means the buildings and infrastructure can be maintained and remain economically viable. Residents are close enough to support commercial establishments (as workers and customers) for long-term providing incentive to reinvest. Due to the variety of housing options, the village residents vary in age and economic abilities, which diversifies the supply of workers and customers enabling the businesses to survive various market changes. Villages capture economic efficiencies and increased productivity.

**Quality of Life enhancement.** Creating a village is a great way to revitalize a neighborhood. Villages provide an identity and experience that is enjoyable and sought after by many. Community residents interact and come to know & enjoy each other. Since villages are compact, vibrant places, nearby residents don't waste time commuting to work, shop or play.

**Equity.** Villages make a place for everyone: young and old, drivers and non-drivers, those with a permanent physical challenge or a temporary one. The variety and compactness of a village improves transportation options, especially for non-drivers, by making walking, biking, and transit a comfortable, realistic alternative.

**Safety.** Villages are active places with very distinct public realms and areas of privacy. More eyes on the street are a deterrent to crime. Community residents become familiar with each other and know when strangers are in areas of privacy so residents are more apt to call for help. A village improves social cohesion through positive interactions between community residents.

**Property Values.** Villages have a proven track record of improving property values. Villages are desirable places to live which drives market demand for residential and commercial properties. This also increases public revenues for infrastructure.

